

Marianne Obermeyer

Clinton Centennial

1835

1935



The Story of the Pageant

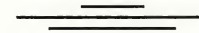
Downey Park

October 3, 4, 5, 6

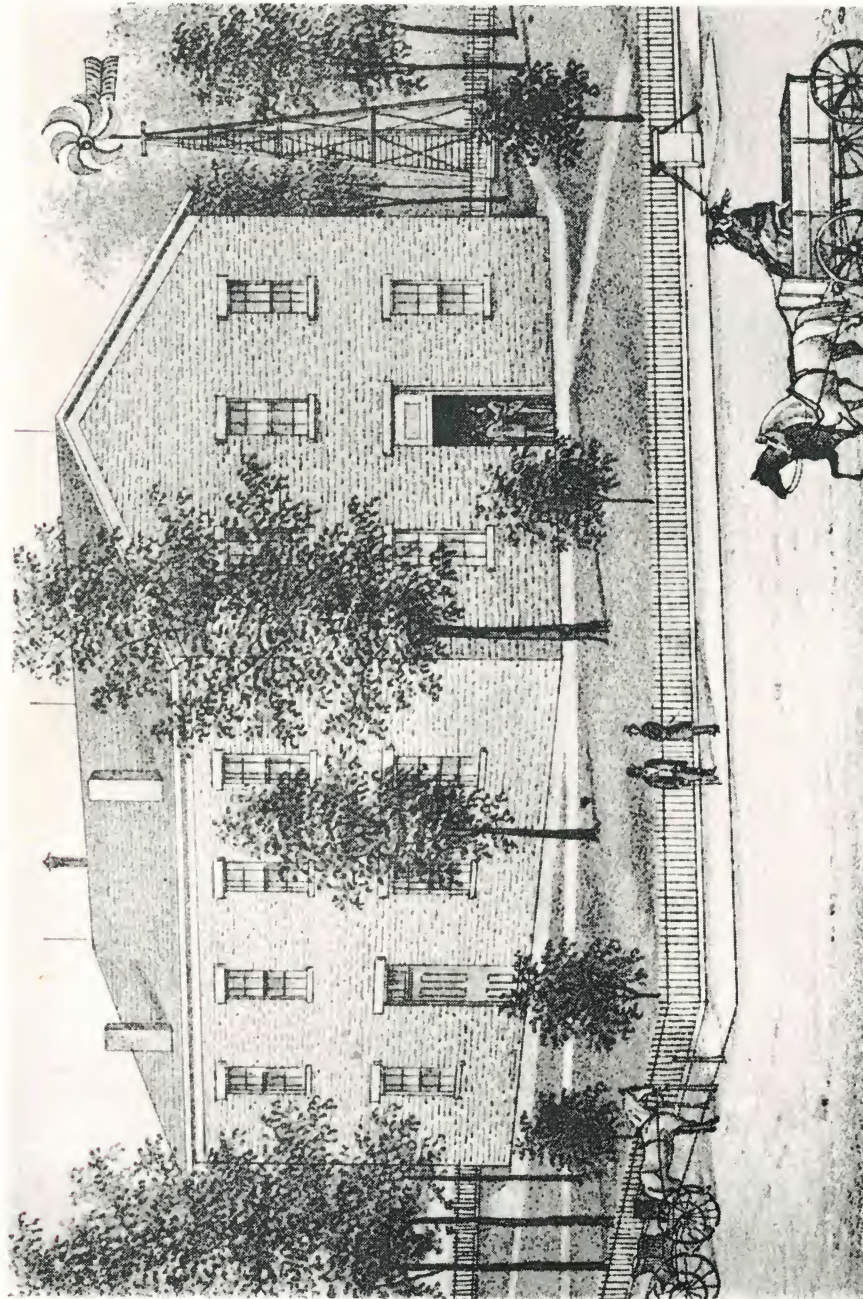
HISTORICAL PAGEANT

IN CELEBRATION OF
THE CENTENNIAL OF CLINTON, ILLINOIS

PRODUCED AND STAGED BY
JOHN B. ROGERS PRODUCING CO., FOSTORIA, OHIO



PAGEANT MASTER . . . F. P. GORMAN



THE OLD CLINTON COURT HOUSE

THE STORY OF THE PAGEANT

THE PROLOGUE

Trumpeters and colors announce the arrival of Miss Clinton.

Miss Clinton enters followed by her attendants.

Address of Welcome by Miss Clinton: "Fellow citizens of Clinton and the United States. In the name of the inhabitants of this goodly town and in honor of our celebration this evening, I bid you all a most cordial welcome. Whether you were born within its ancient boundaries, interlacing your affections with those with whom you compose this incorporated Brotherhood, in the great family of the Union, or whether you have forsaken your home in some foreign countries, renouncing all allegiance unto it and having adopted this as your earthly home, here to abide as one of its children, seeking its Peace and its Welfare, as long as God in his providence shall continue you were, or whether you are a native of some other town, city or state, and are here present to enjoy with us the celebration, in the name of the town of Clinton, I extend to each and all of you the endearing address of Fellow Citizen, and bid you welcome to the Historical Pageant of Clinton."

Miss Columbia attended by her 48 states arise and are greeted by Miss Clinton.

The Queen of the Pageant together with Miss Columbia, together with their attendants, are then escorted to the Court of Honor from which they review the pageant in State.

Recorder of all deeds steadily pressing forward, the stark old man.

INTERLUDE I

PROPHECY OF FATHER TIME

"I came, I know not whence
I go, I know not whither,
Eye of things created never
Upon my coming looked, nor shall it see my passing
First and last of all things I,
For I am Time.

Look ye upon the Dawning of Creation
Called Universe.
When out of the chaos, order is brought,
You will see the birth of sky, flowers, land,
And last—man, the Red Man."

EPISODE 2

THE DAWNING OF CREATION

In the distance ghostlike forms are seen approaching, followed by many beautiful things. They lift their veils and behold, we see the Dawning of Creation—the birth of land, sky, flowers and water—shaped and moulded into a beautiful harmony of movement.

EPISODE 3

THE INDIAN

Indian camp life and primitive occupations—just as everything is in perfect harmony with creation growing in its merry play, the voice of Man is heard. This breaks the stilled harmony of nature and in gross confusion the creation spirits run and hide under cover of

the forest. When the land was first explored it was inhabited by the Red Man—where they came from in the beginning, how long they dwelt in North America, what peoples they replace, a matter much dispute. We see a typical band of Indians who were found in small villages and roving bands—a village visited by a roving hunting party. They cultivated the soil very little and depended almost entirely upon the chase. Hunting and dancing constituted their enjoyment. Their great interest in life was to procure food and devour it and to subdue their enemies. If a campaign proved a failure, the braves slunk back and moped in silence with a feeling of disgrace, often taunted by the squaws for lack of valor. If successful, the return was celebrated with a grand savage dance.

We depict the primitive life of the Indian.

INTERLUDE II

PROPHECY OF FATHER TIME

"And so they came into this land
Adventurers bold on every hand,
The early founders of our race,
The men who took the Red Men's place."

EPISODE 4

"CONQUERING THE BARRIERS"

A symbolic portray of the heroic advancement of the pioneer Manhood and Pioneer Womanhood of Tarentum in the face of obstacles and the opposing forces of Nature. The Forest, harboring many lurking dangers, had to be cleared away. Floods from the Rivers had to be subdued. Mists from the swamp lands brought Fever, and following closely came Famine, with Death itself, stalking always in the shadows. Yet the advancement went steadily forward and the struggle of the early Manhood and Womanhood of America have been crowned with the noble triumphs reflected in the Clinton of today.

EPISODE 5

THE FOUNDING OF THE TOWN OF CLINTON

NOTE: Allen-Fell incident as recorded in History of DeWitt County: "This would be a beautiful site for a town and future county seat", said Allen to Fell in 1834, when on their way from Decatur to Bloomington they beheld about midway between the two cities, the lovely mound on which stands the public school house of Clinton. "A capital idea," said Fell to Allen. A quarter section of land was soon entered and the town of Clinton laid out in 1835.

We endeavor to depict the laying out scene by the trappers and surveyors.

NOTE: The first house was built by Wm. Anderson in the spring of 1836 on the corner north from the present Magill House. This later became the first hotel. On this place two women, Mrs. Anderson and her sister dug the first well.

The second hotel was situated in the north part of the City, here Judge David Davis, Judge Freal and Abraham Lincoln made their headquarters.

EPISODE 6

THE FIRST PIONEER SCHOOL

We depict a primitive outdoor school—with the village Bad Boy, recess and a spelling bee—finishes a busy day.

EPISODE 7

THE FIRST PIONEER CHURCH SERVICE

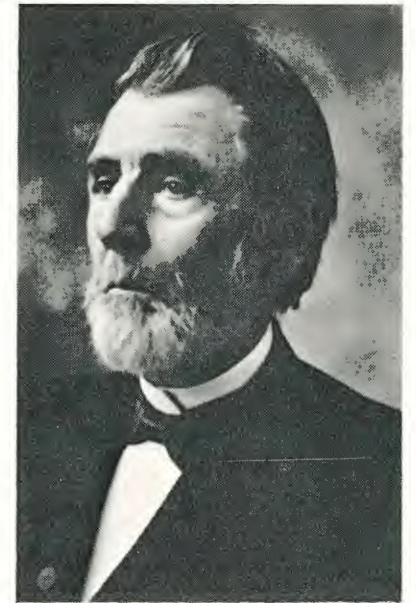
We endeavor to depict an out-door church service, with the pioneers arriving by horseback, and the old time circuit rider.

EPISODE 8

THE MOORE-McGRAW-JOHN WARNER EPISODE

One day in the early forties John McGraw and C. H. Moore were walking down the streets of Clinton, when they espied a stranger evidently taking stock of the town, with a view to settling. Political sentiment in Clinton was strongly Whig, and as Mr. Moore and Mr. McGraw were Whigs they agreed to quiz this stranger on his politics, and if he were Whig they would portray the town in rosy colors.

The man proved to be Dr. John Warner from Mt. Pleasant, Ill. (now Farmer City). His political bias proved satisfactory, and he returned to Clinton with his family to reside. Years later Dr. Warner caused to be built the John Warner Hospital, and later bequeathed it to the city. This Hospital has done a fine work.



DR. JOHN WARNER

INTERLUDE III

PROPHECY OF FATHER TIME

"Fads and Fancies of yesterday,
With Time have evolved in many ways,
Customs and styles have seen many a change
In courtship and in dancing. Youth still
supremely reigns."

"I've seen the Birth of Man, seen how through strife
And strain and struggle, Man hath doffed the Brute
And donned the Human. How with trail and tears,
Man rises still and learns that he is soul
I for I am time."

EPISODE 9

THE FIRST WEDDING

We endeavor to depict the first Wedding Ceremony performed in DeWitt County—with a soft shoe dance furnished as entertainment for the guests.

A Virginia Reel is danced by the old fashioned people.

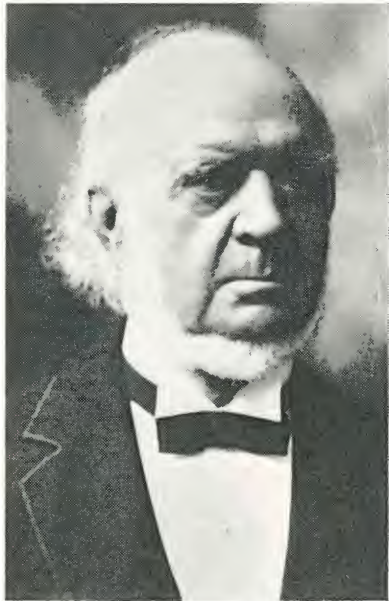
EPISODE 10

The visit of Abraham Lincoln to Clinton, and his speech of the now famous words on the Court House Lawn.

NOTE: It was during a speech in the old court house in Clinton, July 27, 1858, that Lincoln said "You can fool all of the people part of the time, and part of the people all of the time, but you cannot fool all of the people all of the time."

A locally famous male quartette, John Rogers, Richard Butler, Eugene Davis and John McPherson, sang during six Republican campaigns, 1876-1896. Their favorite songs: "Tenting Tonight on the Old Camp Ground," "We Shall Meet But We Shall Miss Him," and "Marching Through Georgia."

We depict this Quartette in action.



MR. CLIFTON H. MOORE

to the neighboring town of Wapella, bought themselves sticks of striped candy, boarded the train in triumph, and bumped back to Clinton at the incredible speed of fifteen miles an hour. Every man, woman and child turned out to meet the train.

INTERLUDE IV

PROPHECY OF FATHER TIME

“War! War! War!
The song of the shell, through stricken skies,
It sings the dirge of Death as it flies—
War! War! War!
To man sings this merciless shell.
It holds him fast in its martial spell—
War! War! War!
Till mute he lies on the reddened clod
Or hushed he falls to the fresh turned sod
War! War! War!
The shells can no more say
For the ‘Peace of God’ is here to stay.”

Scene showing Clinton’s part in the Wars.

— 10 Minutes Intermission —

EPISODE 11

THE FORMATION OF THE FIRST
BAPTIST SOCIETY

Early in Clinton’s history in covered wagons from Kentucky came the Hill family. In the home of Loisa Hill, the First Baptist Society was formed on Feb. 1, 1839. We depict this scene held during a husking bee, outside the Hill home.

EPISODE 12

COMING OF THE ILLINOIS CEN-
TRAL RAILROAD

Clinton never received a greater boon than the coming of the Illinois Central Railroad in 1851 and 1852. The completion of the road at once brought up the price of land. Swamps were drained, more and better houses sprang up. Railway transportation enabled Illinois to extend its commerce to all parts of the world. When the Illinois Central came to Clinton, a new and wonderful era began.

Great was the excitement in 1852 when word reached Clinton that the first train was coming from the north. Certain enterprising citizens walked the painful five miles

PART TWO

PROPHECY OF FATHER TIME

“Now that the Book of Records is closed,
And in it the deeds of old repose,
Let us then turn to our enlightened age,
And see the wonders of Today’s beauties displayed.
I’ve seen the Birth of Man,
Seen how thru strife and strain and struggle,
Man hath doffed the Brute and donned the Human.
How with trial and tears Man rises still
And learns that he is soul,
I—For I am Time!”

THE MASQUE—A mammoth spectacle symbolizing the spirit and growth of America, The Melting Pot, where people from all parts of the earth are united in a Union, one and inseparable. Character and dances and drills of many nations will be given, with correct costumes for each, from the smallest to the mightiest, America.

The audience is requested to join the cast in singing “My Country ‘Tis of Thee.”

All costumes, scenery, electrical effects by the John B. Rogers Producing Co., of Fostoria, Ohio.

The Centennial Committee, the Pageant Committee and the Director for the John Rogers Co. desire to take this means of thanking each and every one who helped make the Pageant a success, especially the cast who gave so unselfishly of their time for Rehearsals and show.

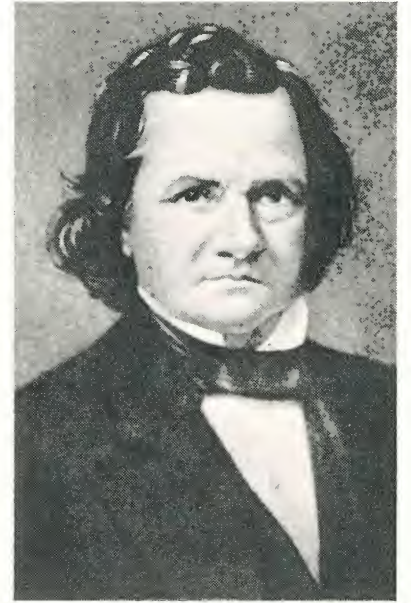
THE COMMITTEE.

CAST OF CHARACTERS

MISS CLINTON.....Miss Alice Wilson
MISS COLUMBIA.....Miss Ada Rose Myers
FATHER TIME.....Mr. Charles A. Cline
TRUMPETERS.....A. J. Rudasill, Steve Lynch
QUEEN’S PAGES.....Betty Eloise Bunyard, Mary Margaret Ryan
SOLO DANCERS.....Dorothy Jean Collins, Jane Ann Ketterson
FUR TRADERS.....Phil Boesen, James J. Lang
FIRST PIONEER MINISTER.....Rev. L. C. Taylor
JOHN ALLEN.....Carl C. Walker
JESSIE FELL.....James R. Pennington
JOHN MCGRAW.....Abner Phares
C. H. MOORE.....C. M. Warner
DR. JOHN WARNER.....John Warner, 3rd
CIVIL WAR VETERANS.....Dewey Griffin, Howard Thorp
SPANISH WAR VETERANS.....H. S. Gowdy, H. O. Bogardus, Henry Brockman
FIRST BRIDE.....Mrs. Louis Crawford
FIRST GROOM.....Louis Crawford
FIRST MINISTER.....Dale Querfeld
SCHOOL TEACHER.....Frances Foote
ABRAHAM LINCOLN.....W. A. Vaughn
LOUISA HILL.....Mrs. J. R. Pennington
NARRATORS.....Mrs. Eva Ketterson, F. A. Piatt
LEGION COLOR GUARDS..Merrille Mire, Stillman Nelson, Lester Langley, Ed. A. Pollock



THE OLD WASHINGTON SCHOOL



STEPHEN A. DOUGLAS

ATTENDANTS TO THE QUEEN—Elizabeth McKnight, Alice Humphrey, Bonnie Snorgrass, Martha Henson, Letha Nall, Faye Lindsey, Helen M. Davis, Doyne Miller, Edna Owens, Freidabelle Cackley, Corene McAboy, Elva Williamson.

FORTY-EIGHT STATES—Mrs. H. L. Bean, Mrs. H. O. Williamson, Miss Ethel Smith, Miss Grace Crang, Miss Maude Lampe, Miss Mabel Lampe, Miss Fern Lampe, Miss Faye Glazebrook, Mrs. Lida Wainwright, Mrs. H. T. Swigart, Mrs. Craig Huff, Miss Josephine Bates, Mrs. C. W. Overleese, Miss Hulda Alice Johnson, Miss Dora Nebel, Miss Dorothy Farnsworth, Mrs. Reba Daniels, Mrs. Laura Obermeyer, Mrs. Russell Anderson, Mrs. O. C. Harwood, Mrs. Mary Hammond, Miss Josephine Reynolds, Mrs. T. S. Miller, Mrs. Hallie Mallon, Mrs. Harriet Best, Mrs. Charles R. Miller, Miss Ruth Rudasill, Mrs. George McCoid, Mrs. Louis Lighthall, Mrs. Grace Huff, Mrs. Francis Gideon, Mrs. John English, Mrs. Herman Metz, Mrs. Cloyd Corrington, Miss Louise Fort, Miss Lela Rainey, Miss Helen Miller, Miss Ura Clark, Mrs. Florence Evans, Mrs. William Querfeld, Mrs. Ned Best, Miss Opal Marshall, Mrs. John Geer, Miss Margaret Whitehead, Mrs. Austin Fosnough, Miss Jean Plank, Miss Jean Parker, Mrs. George Lighthall, Mrs. Hull Huff.

CREATION BALLET AND SUNBEAMS—Anne Herrick, Dorothy Shields, Jean Strange, Gwendolyn Mercer, Phyllis Evans, Martha Woodward, Mary Lu Myers, Darline Payne, Virginia Garvin, Freida Lee Thom, Dorothy May, Alice McKinney, Thelma Donahower, Marjorie Wilson, Betty Sears, Jean Jeffrey, Helen Jeffrey, Beulah Moody, Delores Johnson, Shirley Hartsock, Gretchen Meyers, Norma Lu Geer, Jane Duckworth, Dorothy Crang, Floyd Wantland, Betty Abrell, Mary Ellen Harris, Louise Meikel, Elizabeth Garvin, Lois Robinson, Helen Boliek, Mary Sue Neal, Virginia Kring, Inez Dillman, Dolores Bell, Mary Anne Gardner, Anita Reeves, Fayetta Samuels, Donna Belle Orr, Fern Powers, Fay Powers, Viva Anderson, Mary Beth Jones, Charlene Morrison, Aleta Walters, Geraldine Terpening, Evelyn McKinney, Isabel Pullen, Jeanette Kolp, Cecile Perry, Charlene Rousey, Beulah Moody, Cora Crum.

SUNBEAMS—Ernestine Simmons, Mary Hall, Imogene Bullard, Betty Costley.

INDIANS (MEN, WOMEN, CHILDREN)—Bobbie Roben, Bob Banks, Charles Durfee, Donald Bradley, John Wainwright, George Marvel, Rox Allen, Don Burns, Fredrick May, John Blue, Corian Samuels, Billie Roben, Ross McNutt, Bernard Harrold, Howard Clark, Richard Brown, Carl Kepner, Lester Brown, Joseph O'Neill, Raymond Jones, Harold Lighthall, Arthur Anderson, Mrs. Floyd Barnett, Mrs. Dean Wilson, Mrs. Bliss Jeffrey, Mrs. F. L. Marshall, Mrs. Ellis Vance, Mrs. Lyman Thompson, Mrs. Harold Wilson, Mrs. Alta Clemons, Mrs. V. E. McPeck, Mrs. W. C. Long, Mrs. George Houchin, Mrs. Harry Gotti, Mrs. J. W. Brown, Bobby Clemons, Freddie Dean Wilson, Joyce Wilson, Mary Jane Thompson, Joan Swearingen.

PIONEERS—Mr. and Mrs. H. H. Edmunds, Mr. and Mrs. Emmett Kent, Mr. and Mrs. Edward Campbell, Mr. and Mrs. Lloyd A. Phares, Mr. and Mrs. Charles Dent,

Dr. and Mrs. M. E. Stewart, Mr. and Mrs. Harry Litsinberger, Mrs. Grace McCuddy, Mrs. Gertrude Pifer, Mrs. Hobart Beatty, Mrs. Arthur Verner, Mrs. Ida Starkey, Mrs. George Marvel, Mrs. Minnie Marvel, Mr. Charles Sprague, Mr. Ray DeLancy, Mr. Frank Rundle, Rev. L. C. Taylor, Mr. Harold Hull, Mr. Clarence May, Mr. Ross Mooney, Mr. Harry Swigart, Mr. Claude Longbrake, Miss Elpha Barnett, Mrs. Mary I. Phares, Mrs. L. C. Taylor, Miss Helen Miller.

SURVEYORS—Charles Woodrow, Harlan Buchanan, Louis Chote, Roy Lane.

VIRGINIA REEL—Mr. and Mrs. Frank Moots, Mr. and Mrs. P. D. Yarbrough, Mr. and Mrs. Roy Baker, Mr. and Mrs. W. G. Hunt, Mr. and Mrs. Truman Robinson, Mr. and Mrs. Clarence Nebel, Mr. and Mrs. Lloyd Lane, Mr. and Mrs. E. E. Batson, Mr. and Mrs. Chas. A. Parker, Mr. and Mrs. Harold Curtis, Mr. and Mrs. E. E. Linder, Mr. and Mrs. Clark Cannon, Mr. and Mrs. Raymond Luttrell, Mr. and Mrs. Geo. Fosnaugh, Mr. and Mrs. Bernard Trowbridge, Mr. and Mrs. Herman Brown.

ENGLISH—Evelyn Logue, Harriet Ryan, Emalyn Nickell, Marjorie Huffman, Bernice Smalley, Helen Van Camp, Marion Hale, Anna Mae Willmore, Dorothy Jean Clary, Mary Jane Parker, Caryl Walters, Dixie Lee Crum.

IRISH—Anna Martha Long, Wanda Camp, Lillian Linton, Marjorie Lou Walden, Mildred Freeman, Maxine Patterson, Norma Jean Bell, Velma Powless, Mary Nell Fann, Mary Jean Strange, Jewel Manion, Imogene Wantland.

FRENCH—Patty Ryan, Lucille Kimmons, Betty Armstrong, Betty Lou Morris, Marie Dillman, Edna Faye Hunter, Betty Tarvin, Thelma Shaffer, Gertrude Gardner, Patty Mire, Harriet Arnold, Peggy Marshall.

DUTCH—Dorothy Patterson, Annabelle Miller, Elva Johnson, Cleo Jean Thomas, Joanne Downs, Agnes Lynch, Lois Arthington, Juanita Brown, Alice Lynch, Jessie Mae Allen, Shirley Rose Vise, Geraldine Lane.

BELGIANS—Dorothy Graham, Gail Owens, Laura Ellen Smith, Norma Lee Seats, Doris Sarver, Irma Conroy, Imalone Wheeler, Rosaline Spencer, Eva Mignon Jenkins, Doris Tucker, Mary Moore, Helen Cole.

CHINESE AND JAPS—Charlotte Bell, Edna Woodard, Mary Overy, Wilma Gibson, Virginia Vise, Alma Mathews, Maxine Sarver, Norma Goin, Jean Lighthall, Lucille Lowery, Emma Storey, Florence Brown, Geraldine Simmons, Muriel Spencer, Roxine Dailey, Marjie Johnson.

ITALIANS—Elsie Morrison, Bertha Taylor, Emily Stern, Norma Jean Long, Dona Jean Arnold, Ruby Barnett, Faye Wantland, Lucretia Edwards, Anna Ruth Singer, Dorothy Johnson, Dorothy Sweezy, Virginia Tatham.

SCOTCH—Mary Barnett, Wilene Strange, Geraldine Cotton, Ruth Shepherd, Noeva Taylor, Grace Landacre, Phyllis Jimerson, Estell McDonald, Mildred Snyder, Janet Cochran, Mary McNutt, Mary Anne Moots.

JACKIES—Dorothy Crang, Anita Reeves, Mary Sue Neal, Imogene Bullard, Virginia Kring, Fayette Samuels, Virginia Garvin, Floy Wantland, Mary Lu Meyers, Anne Herrick, Helen Boliek, Geraldine Terpening, Gwendolyn Mercer, Jean Strange, Dorothy Shields, Jeanette Kolp, Phyllis Evans, Cora Crum, Jane Duckworth, Martha Woodward, Isabel Pullen, Cecile Perry, Charlene Rousey.

U. S. A.—Louise West, Florence Budd, Norma Jean Roseman, Betty Lou Landacre, Ernestine Lambert, Norma Jane Skaggs, Joan Vaughn, Treva Jenkins, Betty Jane Briggs, Alice Lunch, Ruth Schwenke, Miriam Volkmer, Caryl Foundersmith, Cleta Rae Mills, Dorothy Joan Anderson, Patty Pettyjohn, Julia Lechner, Betty Louis Tryon, Dorothy Jean Wilson, Phyllis Marie Edwards, Betty Thayer, Joyce June Lighthall, Bessie Lee Walden, Dorothy Burton, Mary Gotti, Mary Louis Nelson, Betty Lou Roseman, Betty Lou Johnson, Rhea Clevenger, Bernadine Meyers, Peggy Lou Stoll, Connie Lee Suedmeier, Donna Gail Taylor, Shirley Anne Sprague, Florence Shell, Phyllis Marie Edwards, Patsy Kuhn, Catherine Padgett, Mary Ellen Harvey, Betty Jeane Whitehouse, Doris Jean Evans, Marie Owens, Helen Sifton, Patty Oglesby, Anne Kent, Virginia Tatham, Juanita Shaffer, Alice Banks, Mary Louis Duvall.

COMPLETE PROGRAMME CLINTON CENTENNIAL & DeWITT COUNTY

Mr. Dixie Mason "The Voice of the Clinton Centennial"
With The Midwest Sound System operated by Mr. Ray Fulton

THURSDAY, OCTOBER 3rd

MORNING

9:30-10:00—Band concert at Court House Square
10:00-12:00—Grand Centennial Parade, featuring Bands, Drum Corps, Commercial, Religious and Educational Floats
12:00 Noon—Luncheon and Music at Downey Park by the I. O. O. F. Orphan's Band

AFTERNOON

1:00- 1:30—Stunt Flying—V. (Red) Irwin. Parachute Jump
1:30- 1:45—Band concert—by Centennial Band at Court House Square
1:45- 2:00—Address of Welcome—Hon. B. M. Pugh, Mayor of the City of Clinton
2:00- 2:30—Introductory Remarks—Hon. L. O. Williams, Clinton, Illinois
Centennial Address—Hon. Judge Lawrence B. Stringer, Lincoln, Illinois
2:30- 2:45—Prentiss Jubilee Singers, Normal & Industrial Institute, Prentiss Mississippi
2:45- 3:15—World Series Broadcast—Midwest Sound System
3:15- 3:30— — J O E Y — — "Wizard of the Accordion"
3:30- 4:00—Col. Ray Hensel and his World Congress of Dare Devils
4:00- 4:30—Dedication of Clinton Centennial Memorial by DeWitt Clinton Chapter Daughters of American Revolution—High School Campus
Salute to the Flag
Prayer—Mrs. C. S. Bogardus, Chaplain
Greeting—Mrs. Gertrude Pifer, Regent
Introductory Remarks—Hon. Frank K. Lemon
Dedication of Tablet—Loring Merwin, Bloomington, Illinois
Song—America
4:30- 5:30—Musical Program—Broadcasting Studio, Clinton Public Square
5:45 — — Banquet in Honor of J. B. Murphy, Department Commander of American Legion, State of Illinois—Geer Memorial Hall

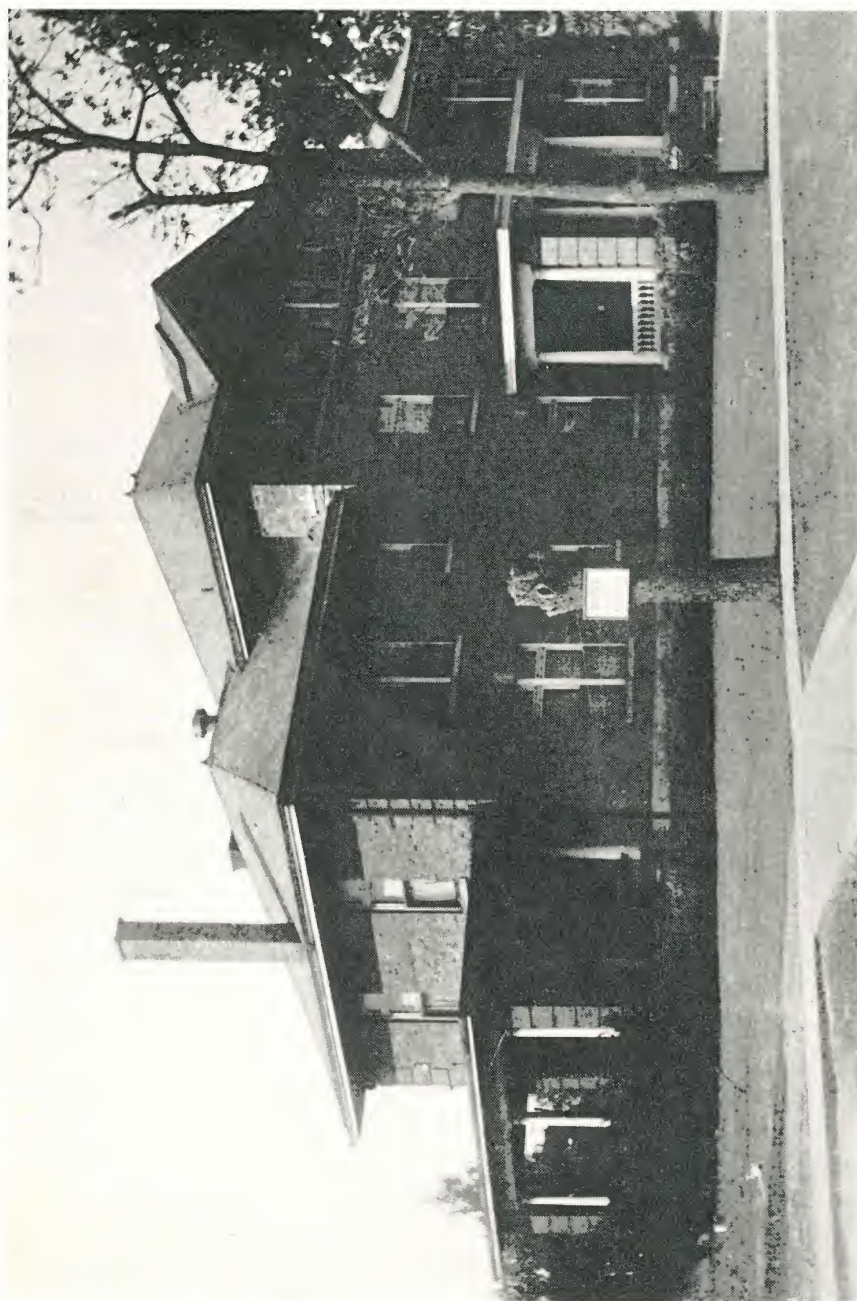
EVENING

7:30- 9:30—Centennial Historical Pageant and Public Introduction of J. B. Murphy, State Commander—Downey Park
Band directed by Forest M. Shumaker
10:00-12:00—Queen's Ball—K. of P. Hall, in Honor of Miss Alice Wilson, Queen of the Centennial and her Court of Honor, Elizabeth McKnight, Alice Humphrey, Bonnie Snorggrass, Martha Henson, Letha Nall, Faye Lindsey, Helen Davis, Doyne Miller, Edna Owens, Friedabelle Cackley, Corenne McAboy and Elva Williamson

FRIDAY, OCTOBER 4th

MORNING

9:30-10:00—Band concert at Court House Square
10:00 — — Baseball game at McNutt Ball Park
10:00-11:00—Musical Moments on Public Square by Midwest Sound System
11:00-11:30—Children's Parade and Contest
Section 1—Pets. Section 2—Doll Buggies. Section 3—Costumes.
11:30-12:00—WLS Artists: Max Terhune, Winnie, Lou and Sally, Three Neighbor Boys
12:00 Noon—Luncheon and Music at Downey Park by the Centennial Band



THE JOHN WARNER HOSPITAL

AFTERNOON

- 1:00- 1:30—Jubilee Singers
1:30- 3:00—World Series Broadcast—by Midwest Sound System
— — J O E Y — — "Wizard of the Accordion"
3:00- 3:30—Winnie—Lou and Sally—and the Three Neighbor Boys
3:30- 3:45—Stunt Flying—V. (Red) Irwin. Parachute Jump
3:45- 4:15—Col. Ray Hensel and his World Congress of Dare Devils
4:15- 4:30—Max Terhune, the Hoosier Mimic from WLS
4:30- 5:00—Dedication of Field Artillery to DeWitt County and Dedication of caisson and limber to Crang-Bennett Post No. 103, by Clinton Kiwanis
5:00 —Musical Program by Midwest Sound System

EVENING

- 7:30- 9:30—Centennial Historical Pageant—Downey Park
10:00-12:00 Centennial Ball—K of P Hall, with Miss Alice Wilson, Queen of the Centennial and her Court of Honor. Music by Homebrook's Orchestra

SATURDAY, OCTOBER 5th

MORNING

- 10:00-12:00—Ringer Contest—Marbles for boys under fourteen. William D. Magill, Chairman

AFTERNOON

- 1:15 —Football Game—Farmer City H. S. vs. Clinton H. S.—Sprague's Field
3:00- 4:30—Amateur Broadcast—Broadcasting Studio, Court House Square
4:30- 5:00—Husband Calling Contest. Hog Calling Contest

EVENING

ILLINOIS CENTRAL PROGRAM

- Clinton Community High School Auditorium
7:15- 7:45—Orchestra Music and Special Numbers
7:45- 8:25—Illustrated Lecturer Portraying Early History of the Illinois Central R. R.
Lecturer—C. J. Corliss, Asst. in Public Relations, Illinois Central System
8:25- 8:40—Special Music
8:40- 8:50—Remarks—Mr. R. J. Roth, Superintendent, Springfield, Illinois Division
Sponsored by Springfield Division Supervisors Club

SUNDAY, OCTOBER 6th

AFTERNOON

UNION VESPER SERVICE

- Pageant Grounds at Downey Park
Churches of all Denominations in DeWitt County Co-operating
2:30- 3:00—Musical concert
3:00- 4:00—Devotions and Congregational Singing.
Address by Arthur F. Ewert, D. D., Pastor of the First Presbyterian Church, Danville, Illinois
Special Numbers by the Prentiss Jubilee Singers
Voices of a volunteer choir from all churches of the County directed by Mr. E. R. Sarig, Clinton, Illinois

There will be no admission charge but a free will offering will be taken to defray expenses.

In the event of rain the service will be held in the gymnasium of the Clinton Community High School.

EVENING

- 7:30- 9:30—Centennial Historical Pageant—Downey Park



MRS. ELEANOR MAGILL

HISTORICAL SKETCH OF CLINTON AND DEWITT COUNTY

New England had her Thirteen Colonies; likewise, DeWitt County had her Thirteen Colonies (townships) whose pioneers, as our forefathers, came to establish homes.

Tunbridge township deserves special mention, in the history of DeWitt County, as the first settlement was within its border. John Branson, later a resident of Kenney is quoted as saying he crossed Salt Creek timber in the spring of 1826 coming out near site of Kenney. There was not a sign of a white man nor his habitation, but the timber was lined with the wigwams of the Pottawatomies and Kickapoos. Had he gone farther, he would have found the families of Elisha Butler and wife; Mrs. Shugart and two sons, Zion and Edom who arrived the 29th of October, 1824, from Sangamon County.

Waynesville township has the honor of possessing the next oldest settlement. Pettyman Marvel and his wife Rebecca came from Sangamon county, Feb., 1825, in a cart drawn by a yoke of oxen. In the spring 1826, John Barr arrived. Samuel Cutwright settled a short time after Mr. Marvel. John Glenn who arrived in 1826 and James K. Scott in 1827 made the two first land entries in the county, the 3rd of Nov., 1827. Sylvanus Shurtleff, a native of Vermont, lived more or less with the Indians and was initiated into the tribe of the Pottawatomies in 1823, but in 1827 drifted to Waynesville, then called Big Grove. From him comes the origin for the name Salt Creek. He said that the Indians had manufactured salt upon its banks. He later moved to DeWitt township where he built the first mill. John J. McGraw and his father-in-law, Tillman Lane arrived near Waynesville in the spring of 1830, later McGraw moved to Clinton. John B. Jones arrived in the fall of 1830 by ox-team from Indiana. William W. Durham settled in 1831, coming from Ohio. John Robb, a native of Tennessee emigrated to Illinois the spring of 1829, making a "halt of one year within the sight of Springfield," the next spring moving to Waynesville township. Joshua Cantrall and brother Z. G. Cantrall, natives of Virginia, came from Ohio in the fall of 1835. Waynesville is the oldest town in the county and was named by George Isham in honor of Gen. Anthony Wayne. The first town plat was filed by Isham June 4th, 1832. The first goods sold in the town (being first in the county) were by Greenman and Dunham before the town was laid out.

Benjamin and Landers Slatten, natives of Kentucky, were the first to settle within the limits of Clintonia township, during the winter of 1828-29. They built a small cabin and remained until the summer of 1830, cultivating a small patch of ground in corn and garden vegetables. Josiah Clifton bought their little improvement right and

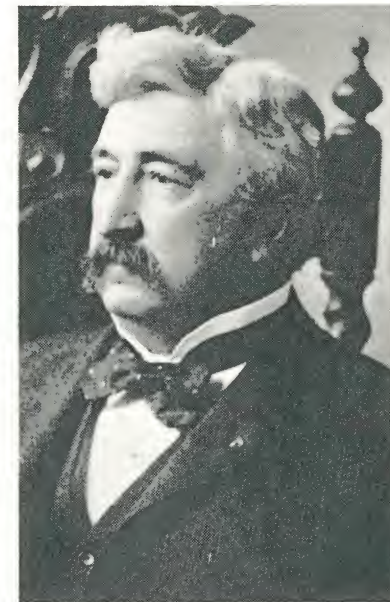
proceeded to break prairie and improved quite an extensive farm for those days. Thomas Davenport drove the cattle to break the first prairie on this farm, which afterwards was known as the Pascal Mills farm situated just west of Clinton. Thomas Davenport taught the first school in 1831. Alexander Barnett came to the county from Kentucky in the fall of 1831 and stopped in what was known as the Hall and Bowles settlement, Barnett township. He returned to Kentucky but in 1832 came back and entered land in 1834. He was elected the first surveyor after DeWitt County was organized in 1839 and served in that capacity for twenty successive years. James McAboy, Thomas J. Rogers, Samuel Curtwright, William Anderson, Josiah Davenport, N. Mills, John Warner, C. H. Moore, and J. J. McGraw were among the early settlers.

Daniel Newcomb, a citizen of Clinton, sold out with the intention of going to Texas but changed his mind and located in what is now Texas township, saying it was good enough for him, and as far into Texas as he wished to go. The joke *perpetuated* in the bestowal of the name. Thomas Davenport came from Sangamon in 1829. Richard Doggett was accredited with the honor of planting the first orchard about 1832.

The first step toward settling Barnett township was in 1829 when Elisha Butler moved from the Salt Creek timber in Tunbridge. The following spring he raised the first crop of corn, which was the first farming in Barnett township. He sold to Mahlon Hall the same year. Franklin Barnett, for whom the township was named, came from Kentucky in the spring of 1831. Robert Barnett arrived the following year. The first school was taught by William Lowrey in 1833. The first postoffice was established in 1833 at the residence of Mahlon Hall, the first postmaster. At that time, a letter sent four hundred miles cost twenty-five cents. Instead of an envelope, a letter was folded and stuck together with a wafer. The first mill was constructed by Mason Paine in 1833, and had a capacity of grinding from ten to fifteen bushels of meal in twenty-four hours. The burrs, about two feet in diameter, were made from prairie boulders. Bushrod Monson and H. H. Morris were early settlers.

The first settlements were made in what is now Wapella township in 1829 by John P. Glenn, William Vinson and John Young, the first two families moving to Iowa. Abraham Swearingen settled in 1830 and soon after came John Troxell and Jonathan Harrold. The first fruit tree and first fence post were set by J. D. Metz in 1855.

In the spring of 1830, Tilman Lane, Sr., Matthew K. Martin, William Lane, Benjamin L. Lisenby, and J. J. McGraw followed Salt Creek to its head waters and found a family occupying a deserted Indian wigwam just south of the present site of Farmer City, Santa Anna township. John Donner was the bold pioneer who had pushed his way beyond the settlements to the wilderness. As other immigrants came he left and, in 1846, with others, perished in the Rocky Mountains enroute to California. To Dennis Hurley belongs the credit of being the first permanent settler, who erected his humble cabin in



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1830 in what is called Hurley's Grove, a short distance southwest of Farmer City. In the spring of 1832, a band of Kickapoo Indians, whose custom had been to make sugar along the creek, returned for the last time, cut to pieces their sugar trough and destroyed everything the whites could utilize in its manufacture. These Indians had a tradition that eighty years before any whites came to this country there was a snowfall of seven feet which destroyed all the game in this section. This tradition corroborated with the fact that early settlers found piles of buffalo bones bleaching on the prairies as though the animals perished in herds. Nathan Clearwater settled on the head waters of Salt Creek in 1832. About the same time came J. Washington McCord, who later moved to Harp township. He passed through in 1828 and told his Tennessee friends the time would come when the prairie land, then entirely neglected and unsought, would be considered more valuable than timber tracts. Some of them declared they would not accept this land as a gift and pay taxes on it, because the prairie would always remain hunting grounds where deer congregated.

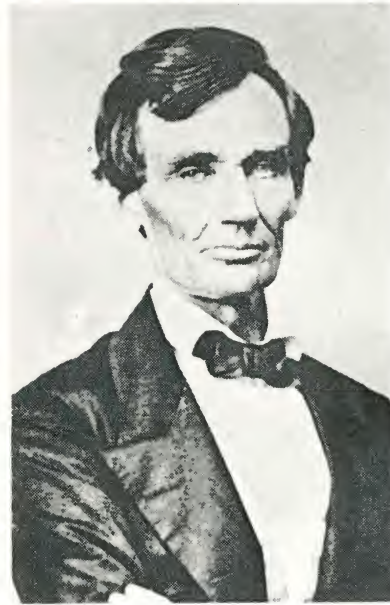


MR. SAMUEL MAGILL

In a forest of oak, Solomon Cross erected a cabin in 1830, the first in Harp township, which remained standing until 1880. One of the earliest campmeeting grounds in the county was in Harp township in 1835. Winding Clark was the first person to hold services in this camp. Families from a great distance came and caused the woodland to 'ring with cheer' as they erected a village of cabins in which to lodge. The G. B. Lemons and Swishers arrived in this county just before the deep snow. Col. Lemon had the honor of presiding at the first meeting held in DeWitt County in the interest of the Union cause.

Abraham Lisenby was the first to break the stillness of the forest of Creek township, a little more than a mile from Salt Creek in 1830. John Miller, second pioneer settler on June 21, 1831, came on a visit and decided to stay. A man by the name of Hamilton was the third, followed by Ezekial and John Lane in 1835, Jeremiah Thompson in 1836, and James McDeed in 1837. Parmenius Smallwood and son George D. Smallwood arrived in 1830 and, in 1835, erected a saw and grist mill.

A pioneer preacher by the name of Burlison was the first to settle in what is now DeWitt township in about 1830 or 1831. In 1832 he sold his improvement right to James McCord. J. J. McGraw made a claim in the township in the summer of 1830 and dug the first well. In 1833 there were three families, Hugh L. Davenport, Thomas R. Davis, and James McCord and three single men, Orin Wakefield, Millington Brown, and James Morrison. Often the settlers would go ten to twelve miles to aid newcomers to raise their cabins. The manner of preparing the mortar to daub their cabins was unique. This was done by digging a quantity of clay and covering with prairie grass. Shell corn was scattered over the entire surface and enough water poured on to make it the proper



ABRAHAM LINCOLN

was the neighborhood Shoemaker and cobbler. It was the custom for each person to furnish the leather and for the shoemaker to charge only for the making. The first five cattle were introduced by Thomas Wilson in 1850 and were brought from Kentucky. They were shorthorn Durham breed.

Rutledge township received its name from William J. Rutledge, who settled in 1835. When the county went into township organization, the citizens honored him by giving the township his name. It is thought there are excellent coal beds underlying this township; however, several efforts have been made to verify the indications but were not extensive enough to make a success to the operators. The first blooded stock—Durham breed from Ohio, was introduced by William Carew in 1842. Daniel Fuller arrived in 1850 with his brothers Barnett and David.

The first settlement in Nixon township began as late as 1850. While land had been cultivated within its boundaries years before, there were parties living near the borders, not citizens of the township. Cicero Twist was the first to locate in the spring of 1850. George, William, and Morris Nixon, brothers, came from Ohio about 1850 and settled in different parts of the township. The first land entry was made by A. M. Pue, January 2, 1835, who broke prairie in 1837 but resided in an adjoining precinct. Weldon was placed on record in the fall of 1873 by Thomas Snell, Charles S. Lisenby, James B. Alexander, and James DeLand. It was surveyed and plotted by the county surveyor John Brown in the spring of 1872. The town was named in honor of Lawrence Weldon, a prominent lawyer of Bloomington, who was an attorney for the railroad passing through the town and had taken an active interest in establishing the road.

consistency. The hogs were then turned in, and in their effort to pick up the corn, the clay and grass would become mixed ready for use. In the fall of 1833 and the spring of 1834. Benjamin S. Day, the McCords, Z. G. Cantrall, James Hutchinson, and Hiram Chapin became settlers. Jacob Swigart arrived from Ohio in 1847.

A man by the name of Fox and Joshua Dale from Kentucky arrived in Wilson township in the summer of 1834, but remained a short time. In the fall of 1834 there was quite a little settlement, Thomas Wilson and brother Edward, Jacob Walters, John Lash, Michael Troutman, and John Guittman. The nearest mill, owned by Lewis Wilson, was north of Wapella on the edge of Rock Creek timber. Every customer was obliged to furnish his own horse to grind the feed. The mill had a capacity of ten bushels daily and often parties had to remain a day or two in order to have a sack of corn ground. Jacob Walters told of seeing buffalo skeletons scattered over the prairies when he came in 1834. The first ground to be broken and the first crop is credited to Jacob Walters and John Lash in 1835. Their nearest market was Pekin. To make a trip to Chicago required twelve days with horses and fourteen with oxen, camping along the way. Jacob Walters

1835 – CLINTON – 1935

In the spring of 1834, Hon. James Allen and Jesse W. Fell happened to stop on the site of the present city of Clinton, while on their way by prairie schooner from Decatur to Bloomington. The thing that especially attracted their pioneer sense of good localities, for what would later become a settlement, was a beautiful Indian mound on the grounds now used by the Clinton Community High School.

Later, on October 3, 1835, these two men laid out the original plat of the city of Clinton, and each took possession of a quarter section of land. They named the village Clinton, in honor of DeWitt Clinton, one time governor of New York.

The question of organizing a new county was agitated. Through the efforts of Hon. James Allen, a member of the legislature, Thomas Carlin, governor of the state of Illinois at that time, granted the charter for the formation of DeWitt County, March 1, 1839.

In the following years there came to Clinton, Abraham Lincoln, Stephen A. Douglas, Robert G. Ingersoll, General George B. McClelland and others who made history. Such able men as Leonard Sweat, Judge Lawrence Weldon and Clifton H. Moore, lived in Clinton. All but McClelland practiced law here. He was a Civil Engineer and for awhile Chief Engineer for the Illinois Central Railroad. About 1855 there was a law suit in Clinton in which the Illinois Central was a party. The case went to the Supreme Court. Abraham Lincoln represented the Illinois Central and Stephen A. Douglas represented the plaintiff. The occasion of this lawsuit was the first meeting between Abraham Lincoln and the man who, in less than ten years, he appointed in command of all the armies of the North in the great Civil War.

Although none of the great debates in 1858 were staged in this county, yet, in that year Judge Douglas opened the Democratic campaign and his own campaign for Senator at Clinton. He spoke for three hours at the fair grounds at the end of West Main Street. Judge Weldon, Leonard Sweat and Clifton H. Moore were practicing law at Clinton. Being close friends of Mr. Lincoln, they thought he should be present at the meeting and sent for him. They escorted him to the meeting and he listened to a bitter arraignment by Judge Douglas of himself for his advocacy of negro equality. That evening at the Court House, at candlelight, Mr. Lincoln replied to Judge Douglas' address. In that address he made use for the first time the expression, "You can fool some of the people all of the time, and all of the people some of the time, but you can't fool all of the people all of the time."

Judge Weldon moved to Bloomington and afterwards became the first member of the U. S. Court of Claims at Washington. Leonard Sweat moved to Chicago, practiced law with David Quigg and became one of the greatest lawyers of his time. Clifton H. Moore was the first lawyer to come to this county to practice law in 1841.

Thomas Snell arrived in Clinton in 1850, coming from Pekin, and took an active part in the construction of the Illinois Central Railway. Dr. John Warner came from Farmer City in 1843 practicing medicine for twelve years. Hugh Magill and his four sons were among the leading citizens of those early days. Magill, Denton and Company were



MR. THOMAS SNELL

contractors for the Illinois Central Railway which extended from Sioux City, Iowa to Cairo, Illinois. William, the eldest son, and Robert, were the contractors. Magill and Emory conducted a dry goods store where Myers Brothers store is today. Later Magill and Company conducted a store. In 1867 Dr. John Warner, James Warner, James Kirkley and Henry Magill, representing the Magill Brothers, established the private bank of John Warner and Company. The Magill Brothers built the Magill House, which is still a leading hotel in Clinton. Alexander Argo came to Clinton from Ohio in 1843 and about 1850 built the old homestead. The finished lumber was hauled from Pekin by ox teams. When the Illinois Central was built, the chief engineer and other officials stayed in this home, as it was the largest house in town. Other guests in the home where Abraham Lincoln, Stephen Douglas, Judge David Davis, C. H. Moore and Mr. and Mrs. S. F. Lewis, parents of John Q. Lewis, who came as bride and groom. Dr. T. K. Edmiston and family from Ohio, arrived in Clinton on the day the first Illinois Central train passed through Clinton. Emmett Kent and wife arrived April 5, 1859 and established the lumber yard of E. Kent & Company. After the death of Mr. Kent in 1890, the son, the late Fred R. Kent carried on the business, under the same name until 1932. The grandson Emmett Kent, the third generation, is now manager. Many prominent citizens came to Clinton prior to 1860, following is a list of a few not mentioned above, with date of arrival.

W. B. Rundle, 1858	J. T. Snell, 1842	M. B. Spicer, 1854
Dr. John Wright, 1854	T. F. Hull, 1846	O. L. Kirk, 1857
Dr. John B. Hunt, 1846	A. V. Lisenby, 1850	Judge Samuel Graham
M. Smallwood, 1858	Mary S. Welch, 1854	W. W. McAboy, 1842
A. D. McHenry, 1857	R. P. McHenry	J. J. McGraw, 1830
James Lisenby, 1829	William Monson, 1846	I. B. Beatty, 1852
A. W. Razey, 1857	William Bishop, 1855	Dr. Christopher Goodbrake,
William Fuller, 1848	Dr. David W. Edmiston	1847
Thomas Dickerson	Lawrence Weldon, 1854	Col. J. J. Kelly
Aaron Welch	Dr. John A. Edmiston,	H. C. Wilson, 1854
Oscar Woodward, 1849	1857	Homer B. Taylor, 1853
John G. Cackley, 1851	James Deland, 1860	John B. Wolf, 1853
Samuel C. Phares, 1852	John A. Phares, 1850	Alexander Rogers, 1853

Clinton citizens have been public spirited. When the war of the states began in 1861, Woodlawn Cemetery was a part of the farm of George William Gideon. His son Edward enlisted as assistant to Dr. C. Goodbrake. His time of service was short. He became ill and was sent home. On his death bed he requested his father to bury him on the hill, where he had played as a child. His request was granted and his father gave the Soldier's plat in Woodlawn. Dr. John Warner gave the "John Warner Hospital". His son, Vespasian Warner, Commissioner of Pensions under Theodore Roosevelt, gave the building and grounds of the "Vespasian Warner Public Library". Mr. and Mrs. William H. MacFarland and Byron Staymates generously gave endowment funds for the purchase of books. Mrs. Elvira Downey donated the grounds for "Downey Park" where the Centennial Pageant is held. George Spray and Mrs. Eleanor Magill made possible the Y. M. C. A. which is now enjoyed by men, women and the young people of Clinton. Oscar Woodward, of Los Angeles, remembered his boyhood home by erecting a granite drinking fountain on the court house lawn, in memory of his mother. We are indebted to Senator Louis O. Williams for the impressive statue of Abraham Lincoln, marking the place where his famous statement was made. Although a few miles from Clinton, her citizens have always enjoyed and appreciated the courtesy extended by Mr. Lincoln H. Weldon, of Bloomington, owner of Weldon Springs. The Weldon Springs Chautauqua of former days will long be remembered by those who attended.

About fifteen of the county's citizens enlisted in the Black Hawk War in 1832. One company, under Captain Daniel Newcomb, enlisted in the Mexican War in 1847. In the Civil War about 10% of the county's citizens enlisted. Two companies were organized for the Spanish American War, and a large portion of our citizens served in the World War.

Looking back over a hundred years, time has proved our pioneers have builded well.

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USHERS at Pageant Grounds in charge of Charles Sprague.

DISTRIBUTION of Programs in charge of Tri-C Class of the M. E. Church.